



Accelerate Your Business

Indiana Economic Development Corporation

November 22, 2006

Barbara M. McNutt
Chief Counsel
Indiana Professional Licensing Agency

One North Capitol, Suite 700
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Tel 317.232.8800
Fax 317.232.4146
www.iedc.in.gov

Dear Ms. McNutt:

Pursuant to IC 4-22-2-28, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ("IEDC") has reviewed the economic impact analysis for small business associated with rule changes proposed by the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency ("IPLA") on behalf of the State Board of Funeral and Cemetery Service ("Board") and contained in LSA Document 06-112, which amends 832 IAC 2-1-2 concerning the fees assessed by the Board. The rule also repeals 832 IAC 3-3-3.

The IPLA estimates that entities affected by the rule will include 678 funeral homes and funeral service providers, 1,728 funeral directors, 3 funeral homes with crematoriums, and 40 funeral home branches. The impact statement does not identify what percentage of the affected entities may be classified as small businesses, but the report does indicate that the rule changes do not impose any new reporting, record keeping, or other administrative costs on small businesses. The statement also indicates that the changes associated with the rule will not result in an increase in financial costs to affected entities.

The impact statement notes that the proposed rules set the groundwork for outsourcing the licensing examination to a national provider, a change the IPLA believes will be beneficial to customers. The Board cannot implement this change without amending its rules to allow for payment of examination fees directly to the examination provider. IPLA indicates that the examination fee charged by a potential outsourced provider will exceed the current fee of \$50. However, the IPLA believes that the fee increase will be modest and will be offset by better options and convenience for customers. Currently examinees must travel to Indianapolis at their own cost (potentially including food and lodging expense) to take the licensing examination. Outsourcing the examination function will allow for exams to be taken at more convenient times and locations around the state, reducing travel costs for customers. It is expected that examination results will be more immediately available as well.

The IEDC does not object to the fiscal impact associated with the proposed rule changes. The direct changes contained in the rule do not increase fees to small businesses or other affected entities. IPLA believes the examination outsourcing capacity made possible through the rule changes will ultimately increase options and improve convenience for customers.

If you have any questions about the comments contained herein please contact me at 232-8962 or rasberry@iedc.in.gov.

Regards,

Ryan Asberry
Director - Research
Indiana Economic Development Corporation